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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, September 18, 1986 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended September 13 totaled an estimated 17.5 billion ton-miles, 2.3 percent above the corresponding week of 1985, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 37 weeks of 1986 was an estimated 624.0 billion ton-miles, 0.3 percent lower than the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended September 13 totaled 394,497, up 0.3 percent from the corresponding week of last year, and 19.0 percent higher than the preceding holiday week. Compared with last year, loadings were up 5.6 percent in the West, but down 3.6 percent in the East and 4.1 percent in the South.

Compared with the corresponding week last year, 14 of the 21 major commodity groups decreased. However, grain showed a gain of 8,342 cars (41.8 percent) and metallic ores increased by 4,566 cars (36.2 percent). Nineteen of the 21 commodity groups increased from the preceding holiday week.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the holiday week ended September 6 totaled 86,822 trailers and/or containers, 7.0 percent above last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 36 weeks of the year was 3,381,855 trailers and/or containers, up 9.4 percent from 1985.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 09/13/86:

	Loadings in Week ended September 13, 1986		Change from Corresponding Week 1985			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	28,288	I	8,342	41.8	I	7,499	36.1
Other farm products	3,838	I	550	16.7	I	1,372	55.6
Metallic ores	17,191	I	4,566	36.2	I	1,872	12.2
Coal	117,392	D	4,910	4.0	I	19,406	19.8
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	15,007	I	521	3.6	I	3,084	25.9
Nonmetallic minerals	8,358	D	3,693	30.6	I	1,162	16.1
Grain mill products	10,817	I	6	0.1	I	1,638	17.8
Food and kindred products	10,777	D	603	5.3	I	1,449	15.5
Primary forest products	10,455	D	632	5.7	I	2,139	25.7
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,917	I	842	11.9	I	1,635	26.0
Pulp, paper and allied products	12,473	D	605	4.6	I	380	3.1
Chemicals and allied products	25,051	D	327	1.3	I	3,395	15.7
Petroleum products	4,561	D	506	10.0	I	640	16.3
Stone, clay and glass products	10,632	D	574	5.1	I	1,825	20.7
Coke	3,442	D	1,069	23.7	D	164	4.5
Metals and products	7,291	D	1,349	15.6	I	861	13.4
Motor vehicles and equipment	20,563	D	1,389	6.3	I	4,131	25.1
Waste and scrap materials	7,642	D	1,734	18.5	I	1,299	20.5
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	3,395	D	3,553	51.1	I	482	16.5
All other carloads	69,317	I	7,533	12.2	I	8,861	14.7
LCL traffic	90	D	92	50.5	D	21	18.9
Total Cars Loaded	394,497	I	1,324	0.3	I	62,945	19.0
Corresponding week of 1985	393,173						

	1986	1985	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (37 weeks)	13,758,950	13,860,863	D 0.7
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
36 Weeks ended September 6	606.5	608.5	D 0.3
Week ended September 13	17.5	17.1	I 2.3
37 Weeks cumulative	624.0	625.7	D 0.3

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